

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

In the specification, paragraphs have been amended on pages 2, 11, 14, 16-17, 22, 24, and 26-27. The specification and drawings have been amended to be consistent with amendments made in U.S. Application No. 09/694,302, filed on October 24, 2000, from which the present application claims priority.

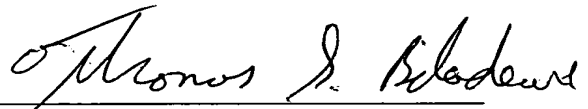
Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 12, 2004

By



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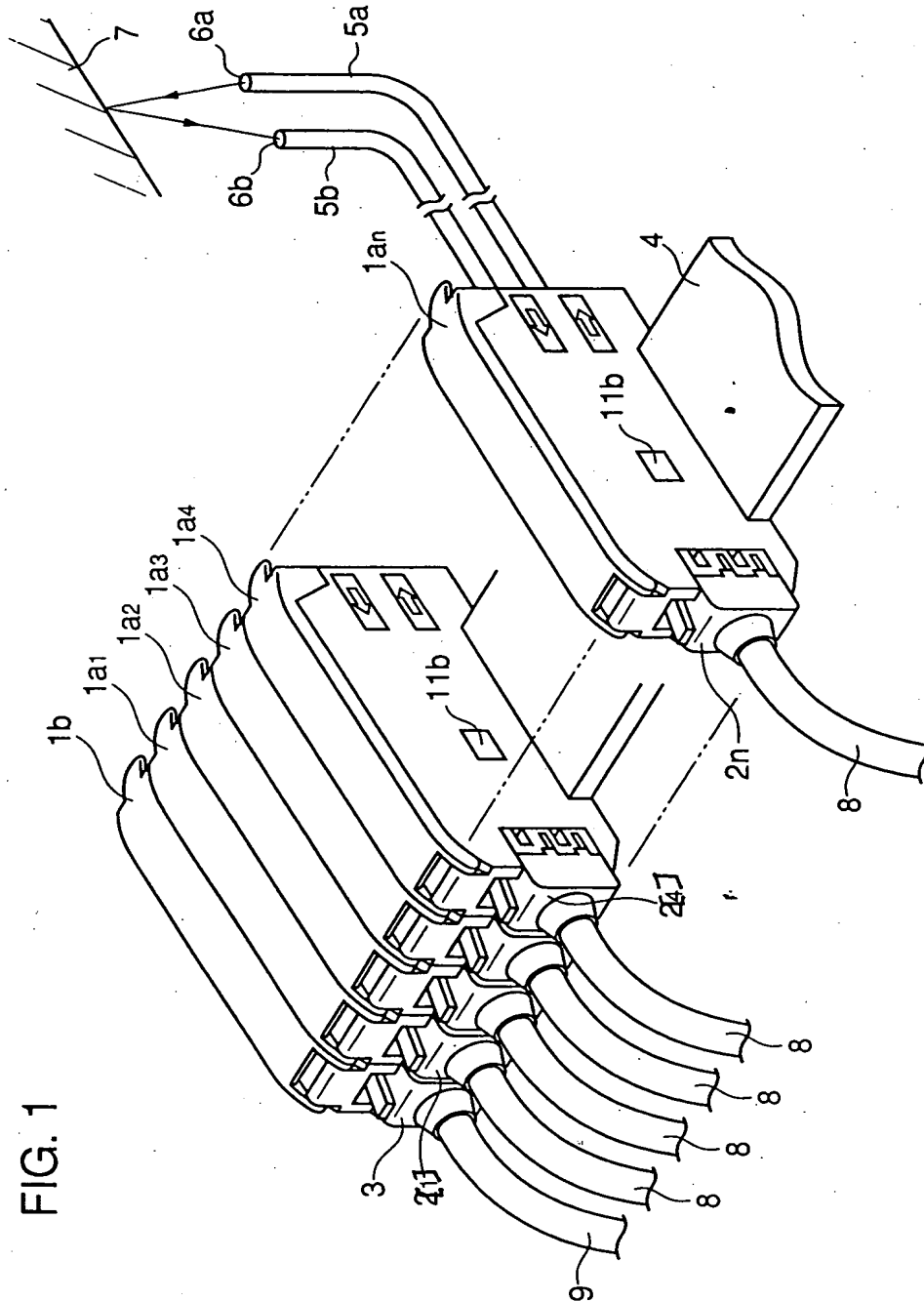


FIG. 1

FIG. 2A

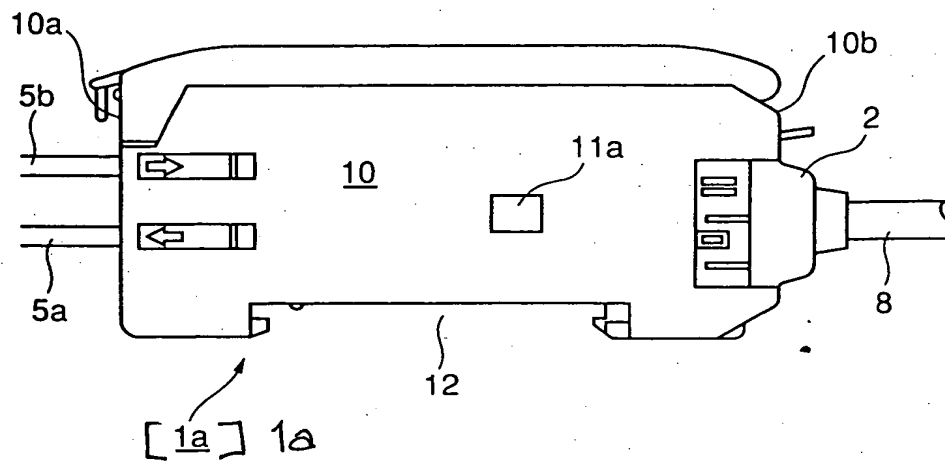
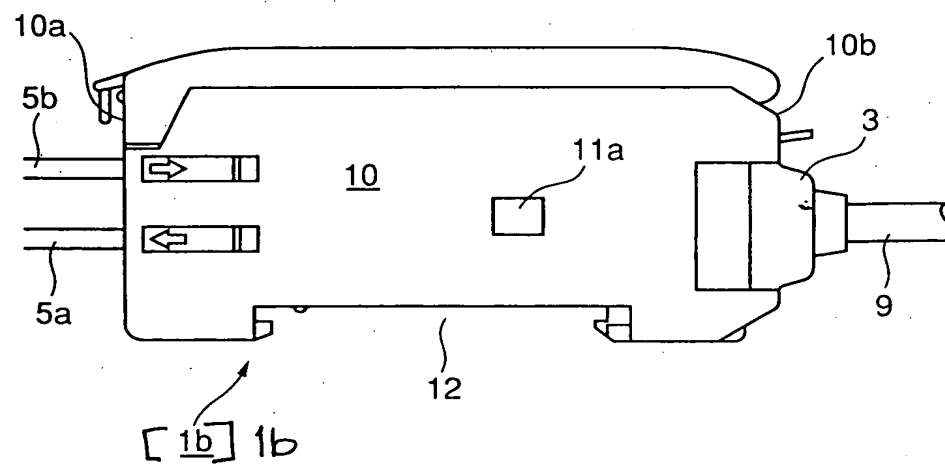


FIG. 2B



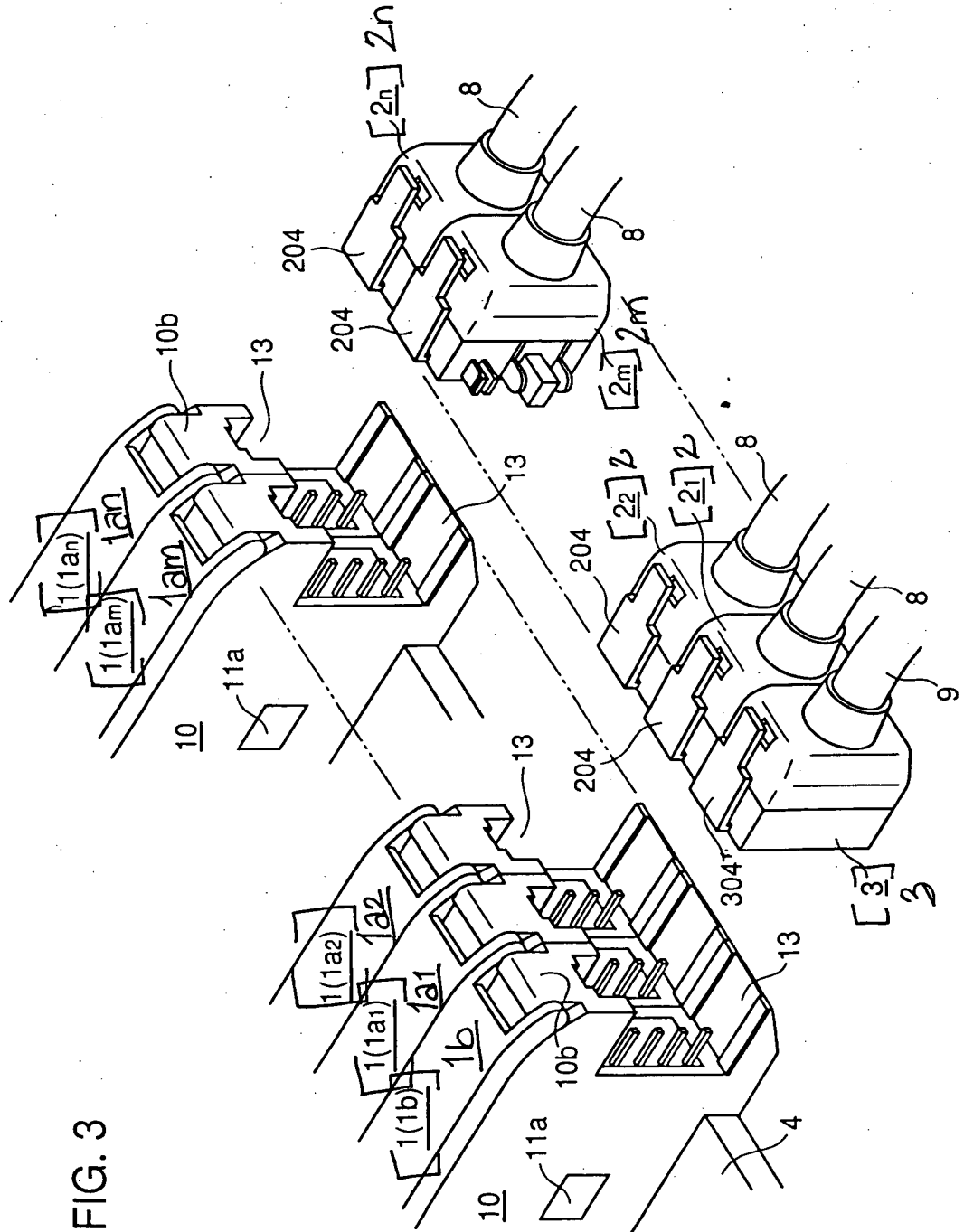


FIG. 4A

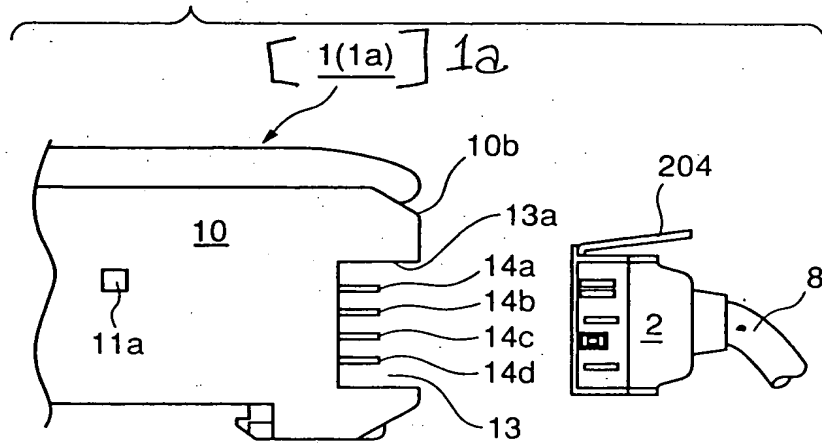


FIG. 4B

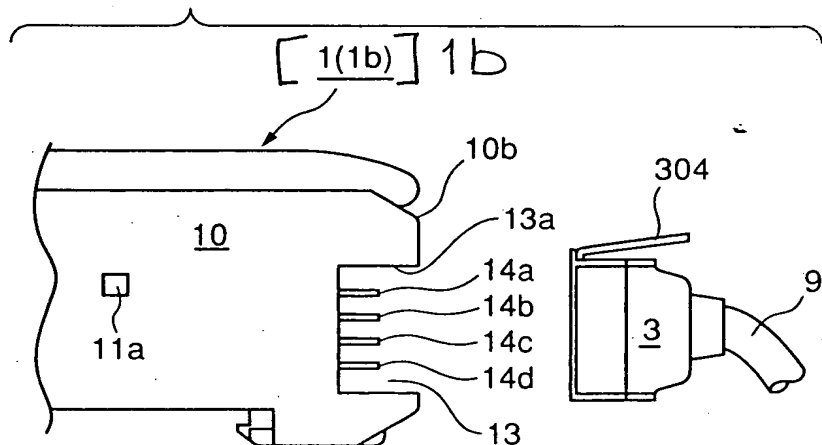
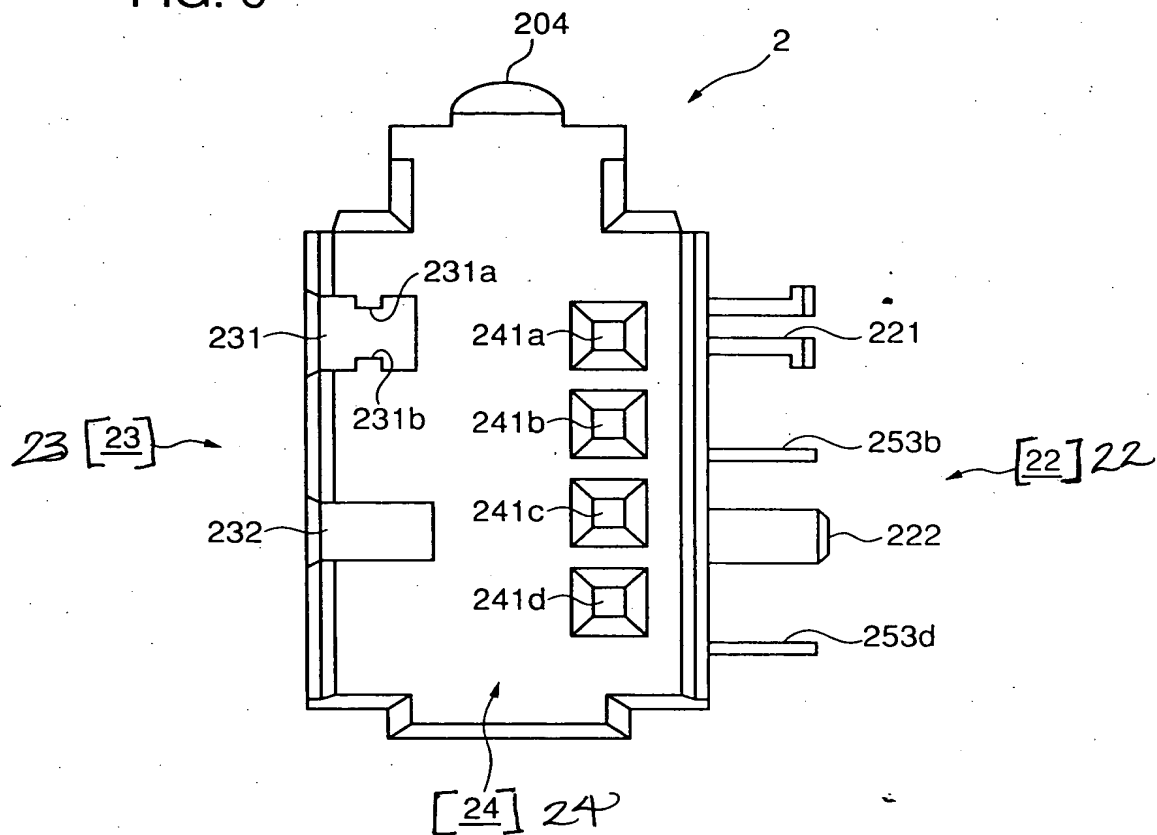


FIG. 6



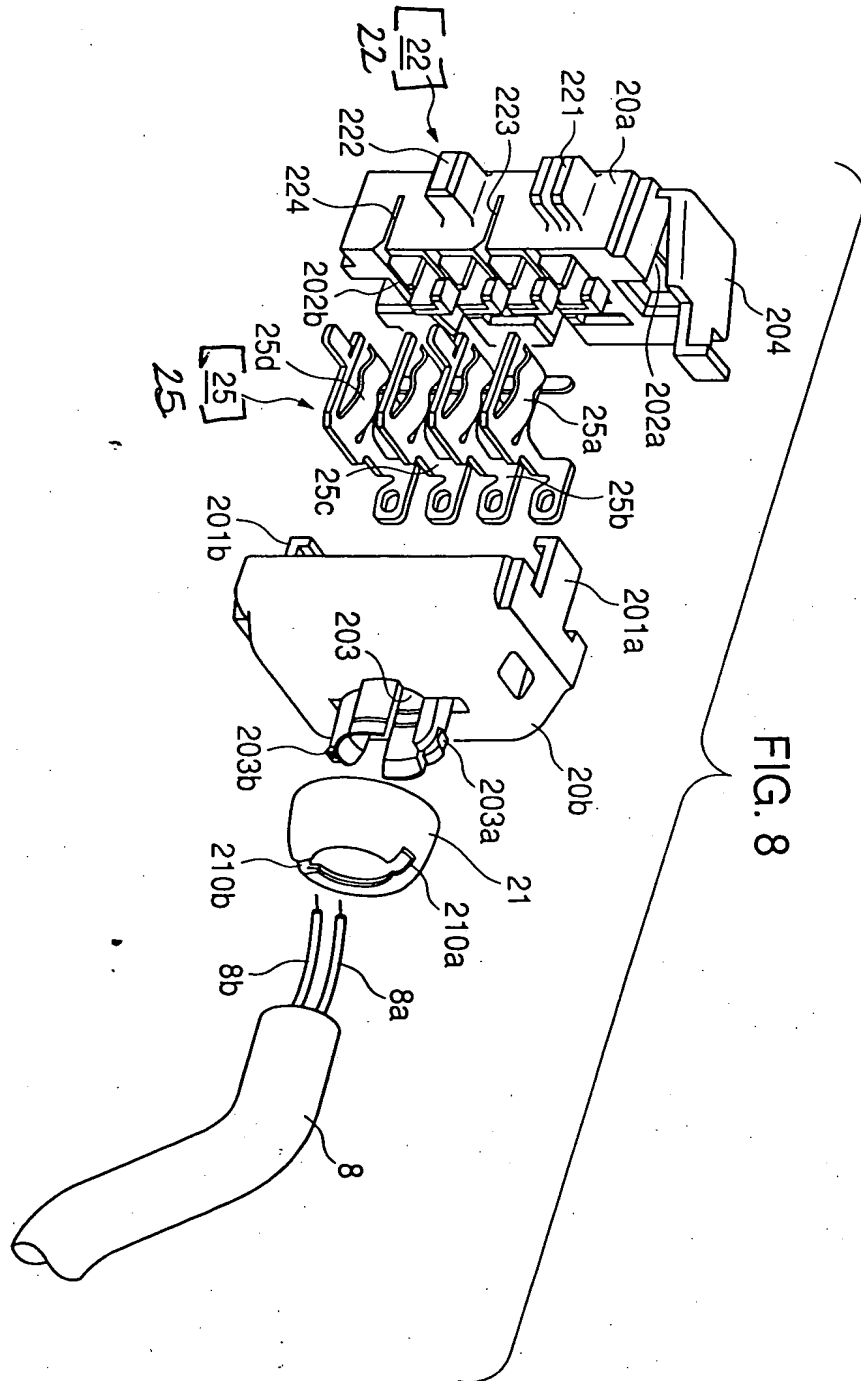


FIG. 9A

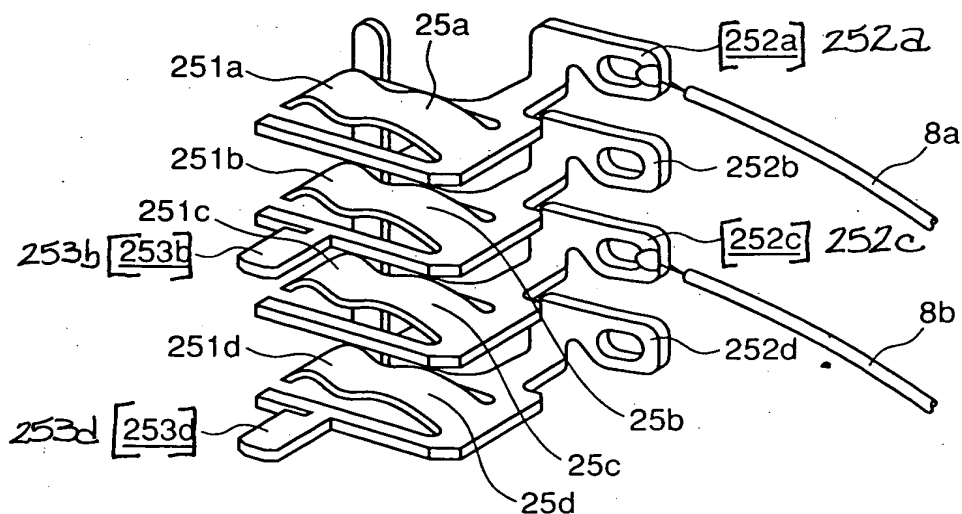


FIG. 9B

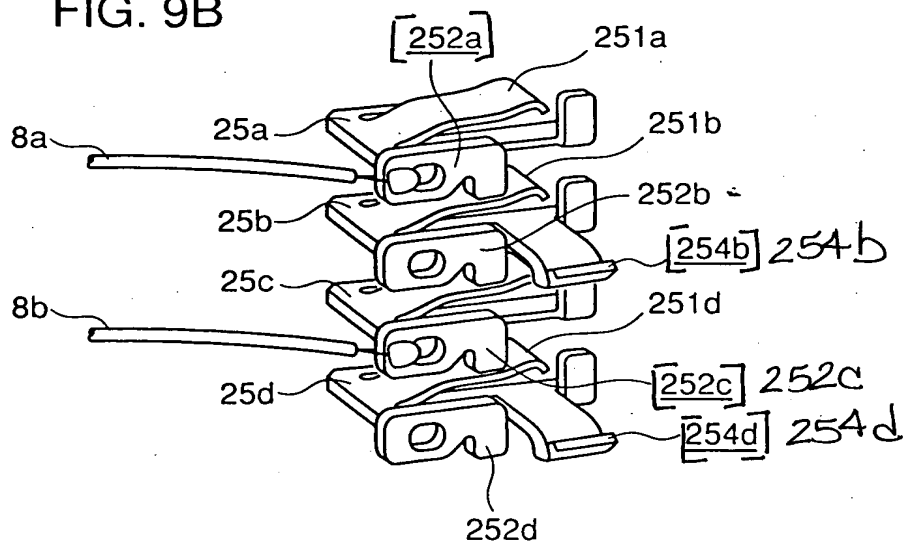


FIG. 10A

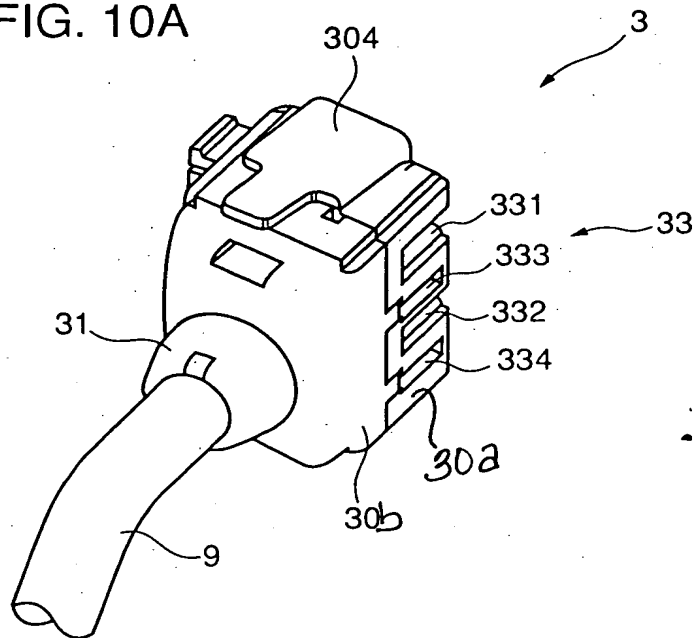


FIG. 10B

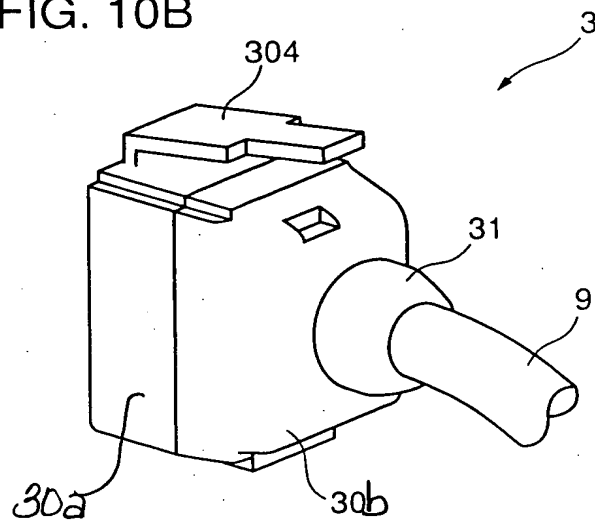
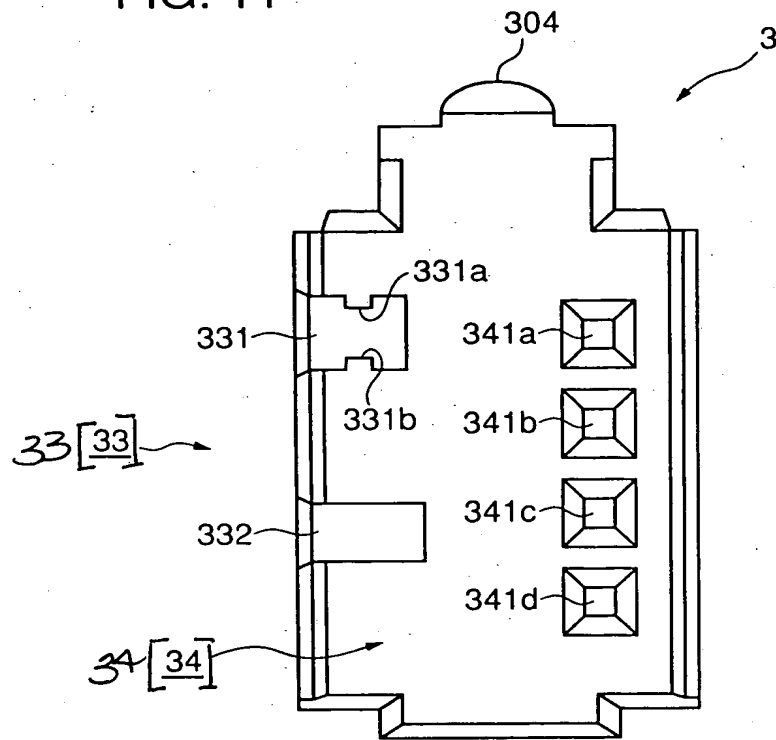


FIG. 11



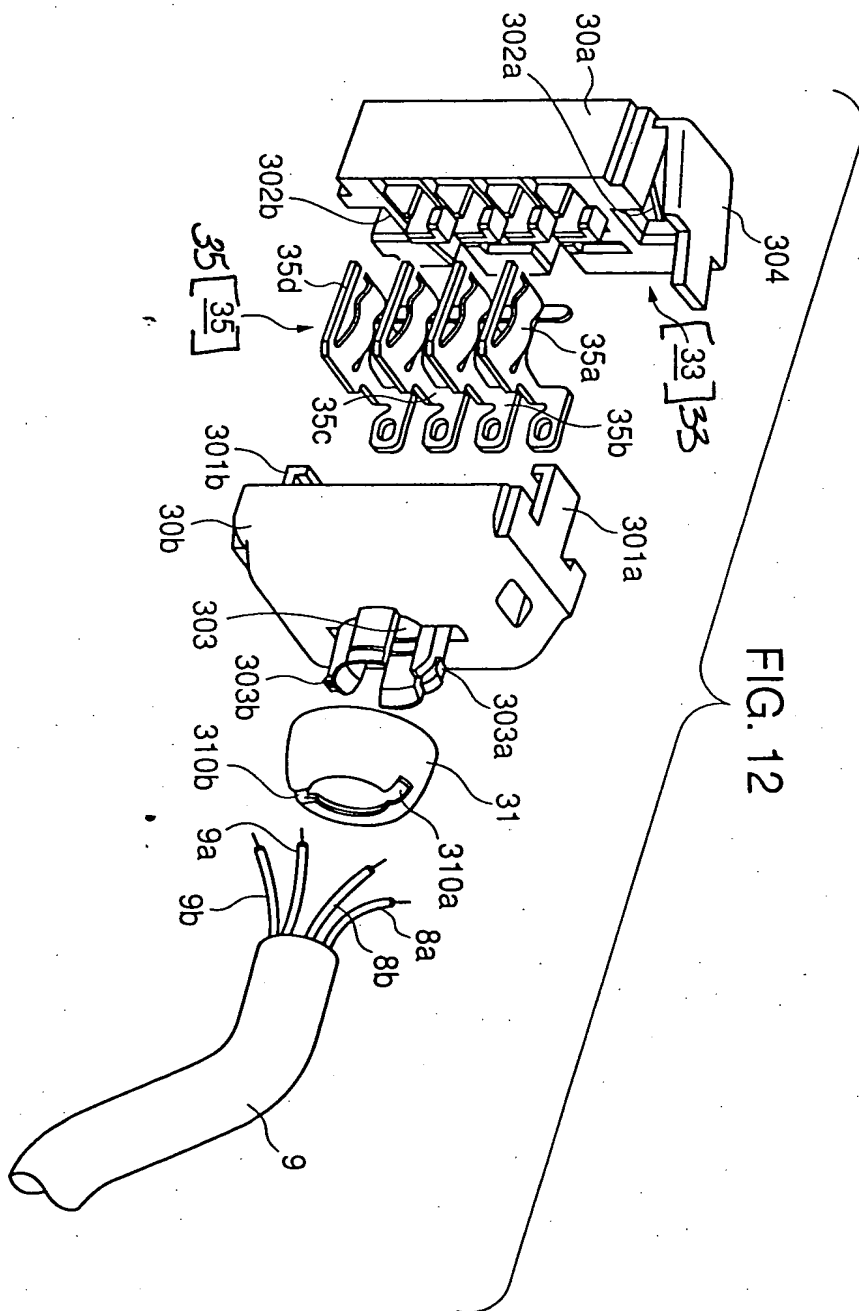


FIG. 13A

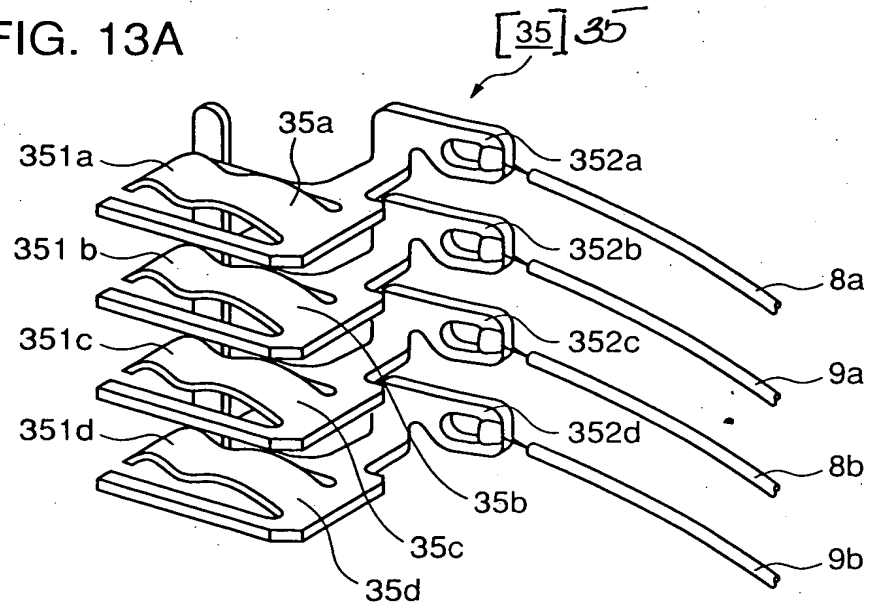


FIG. 13B

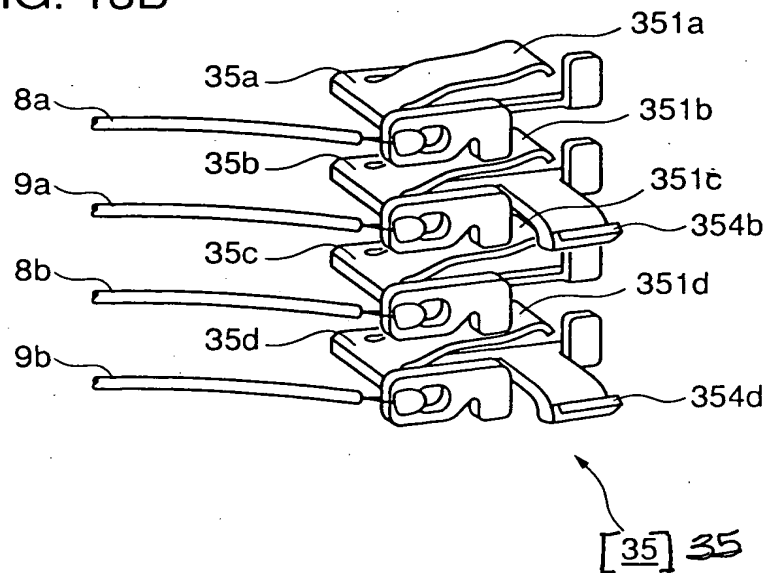


FIG. 14

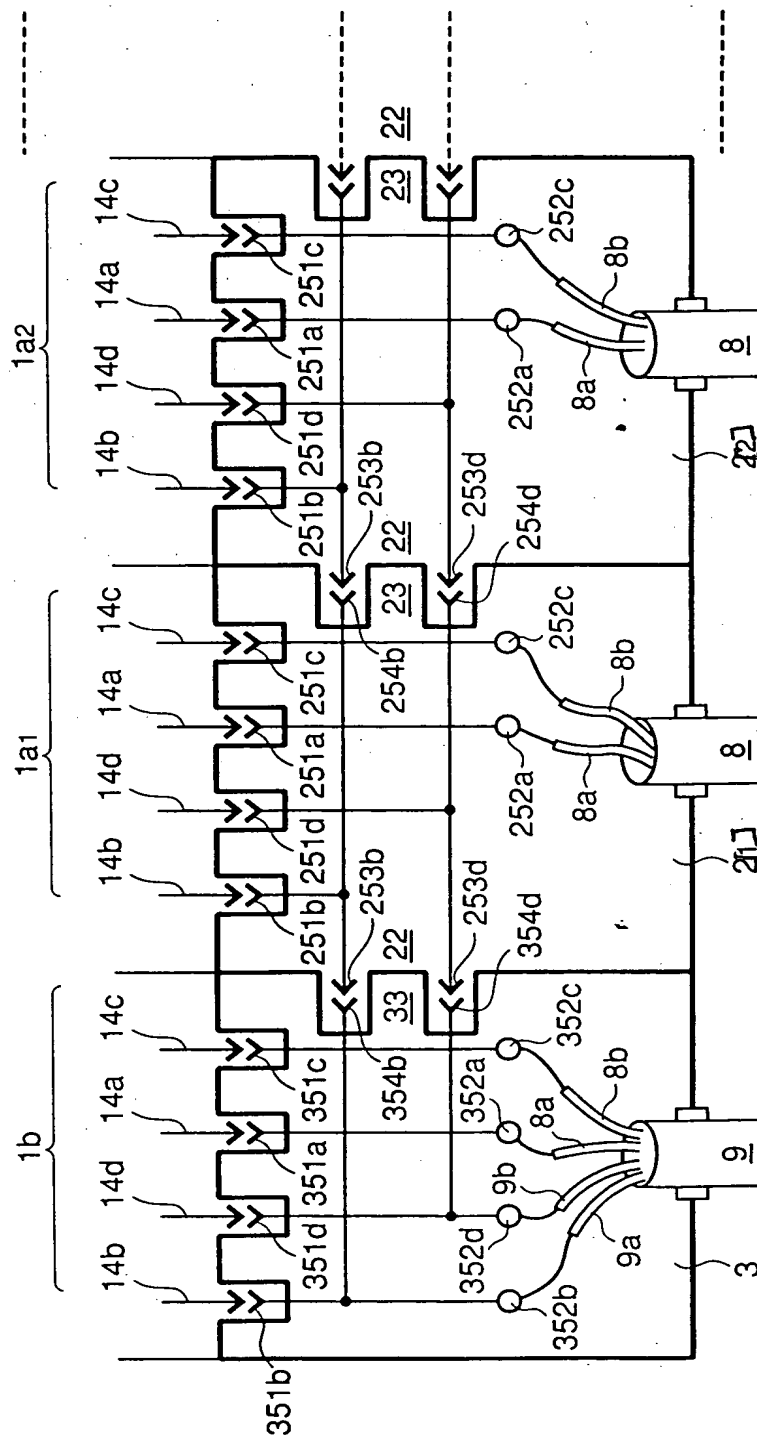


FIG. 15

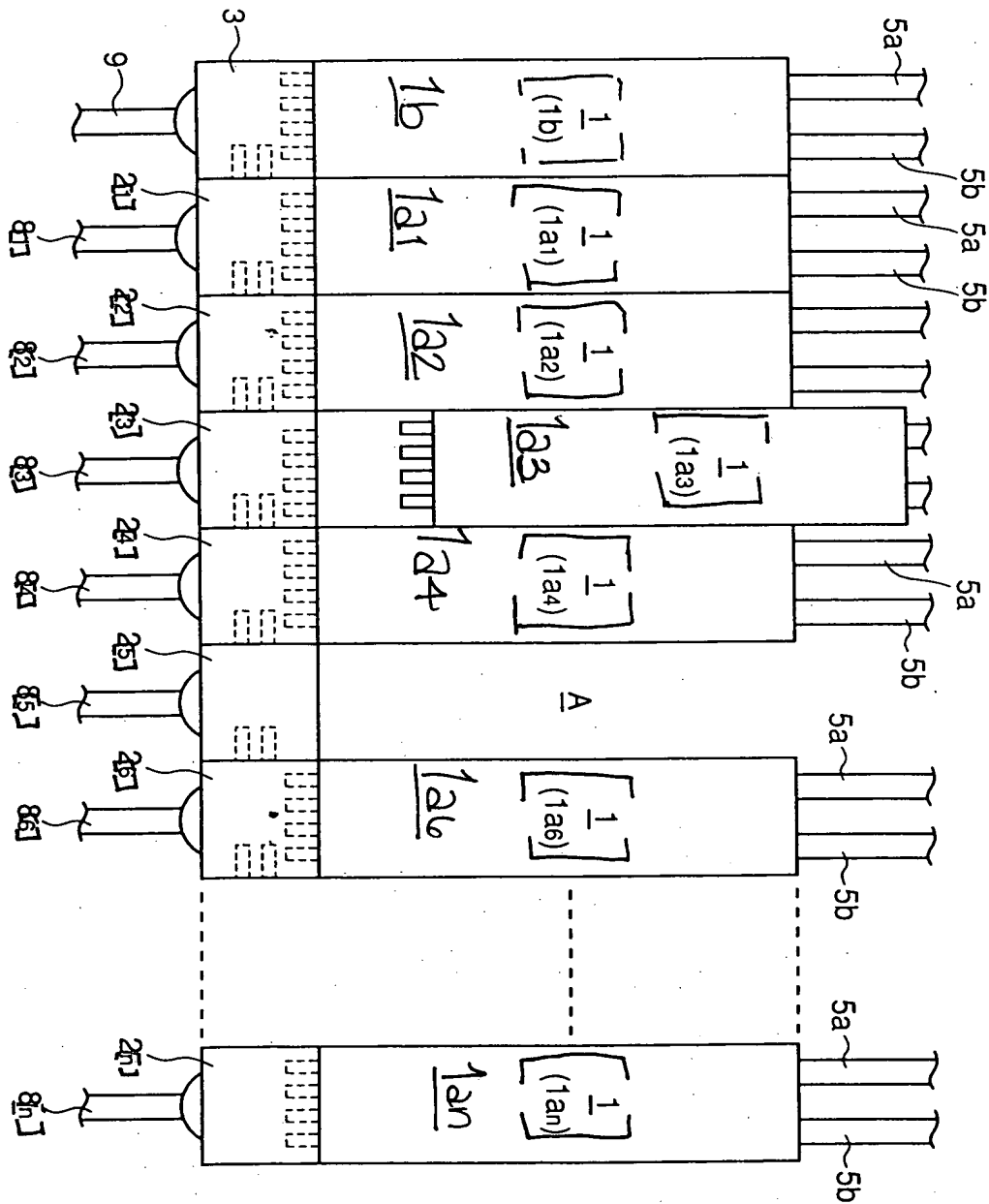


FIG. 16

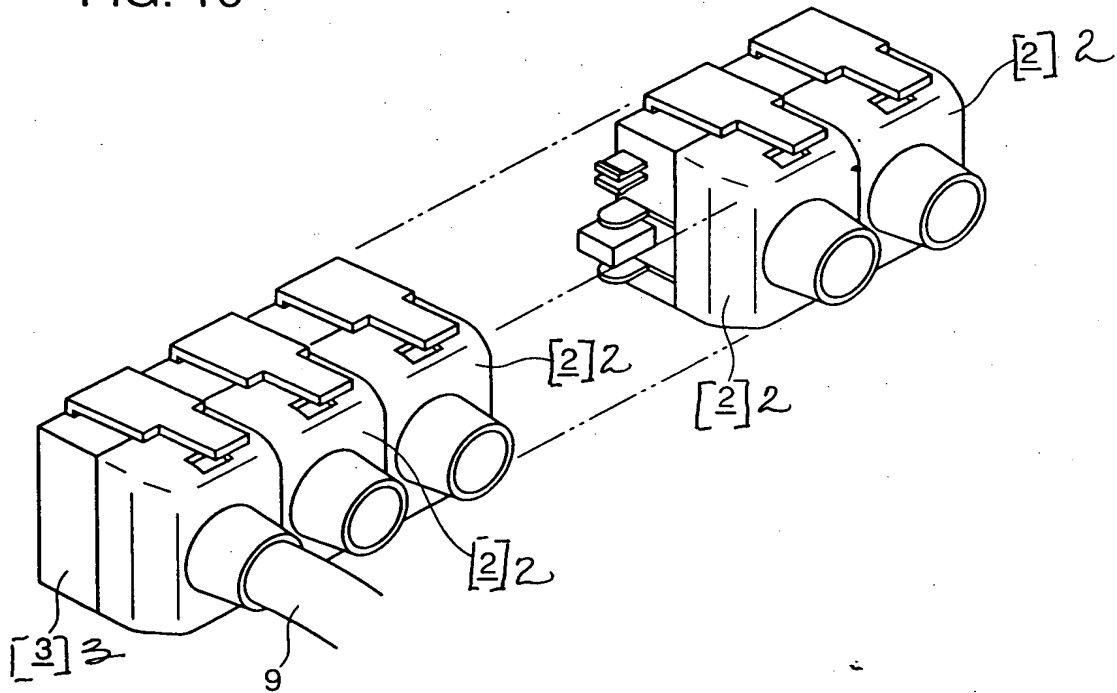


FIG. 17 PRIOR ART

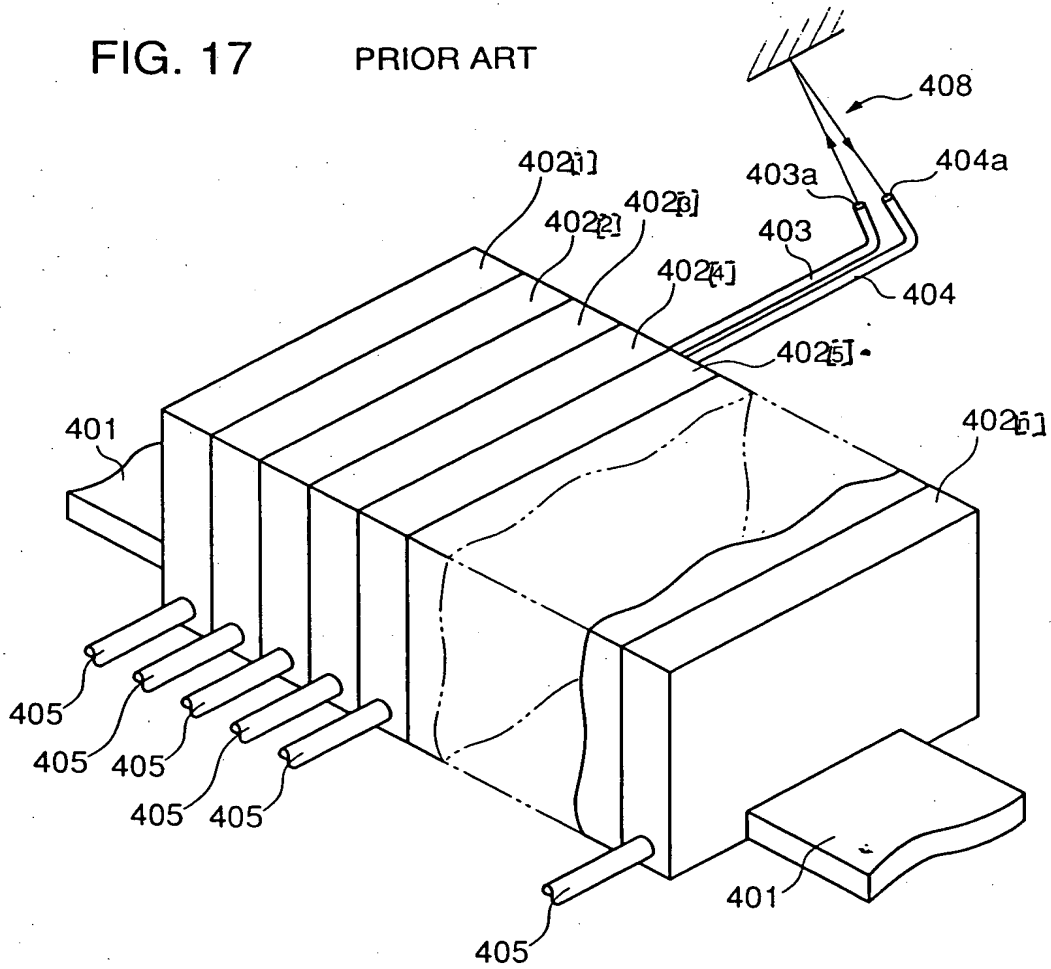
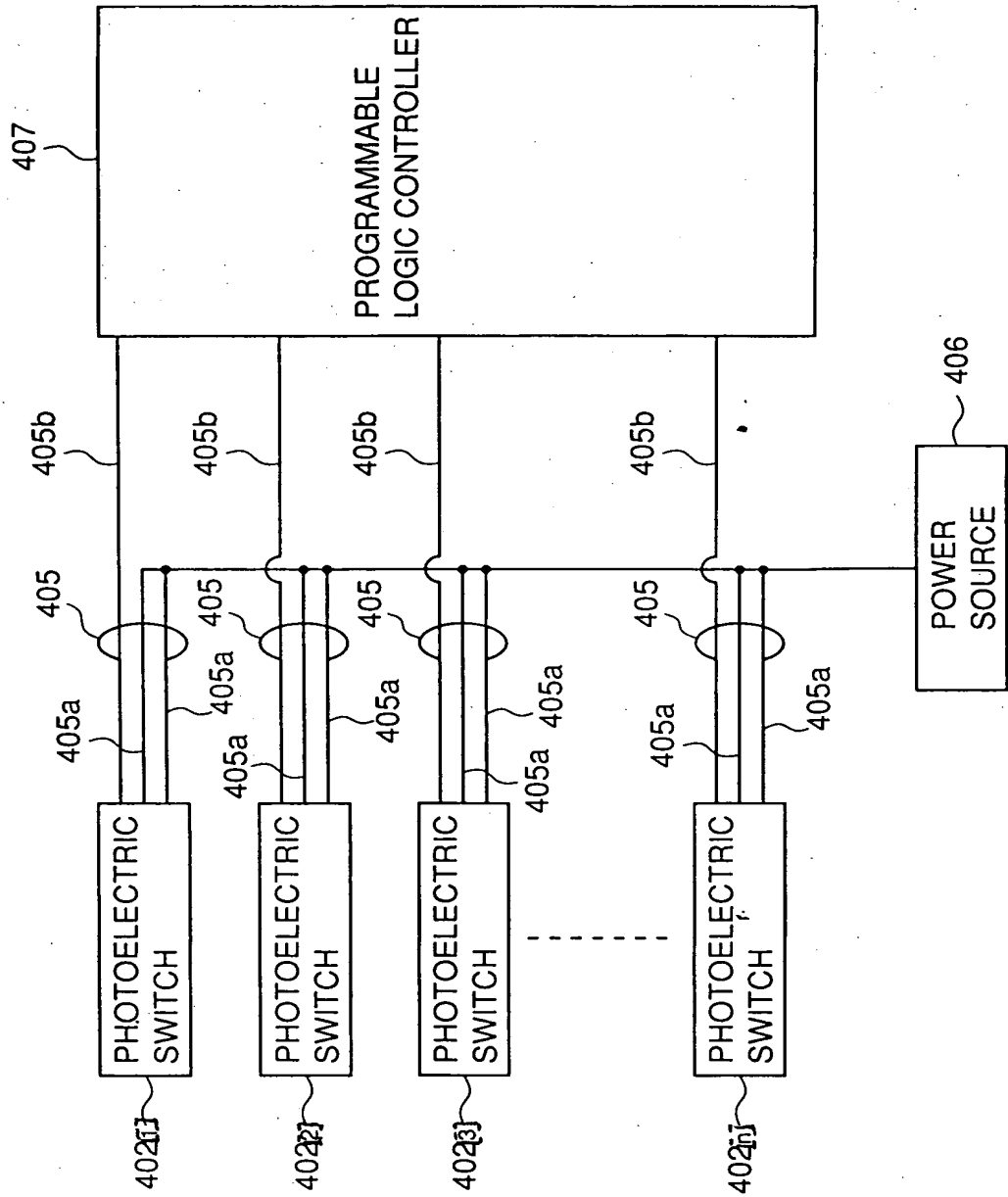


FIG. 18 PRIOR ART



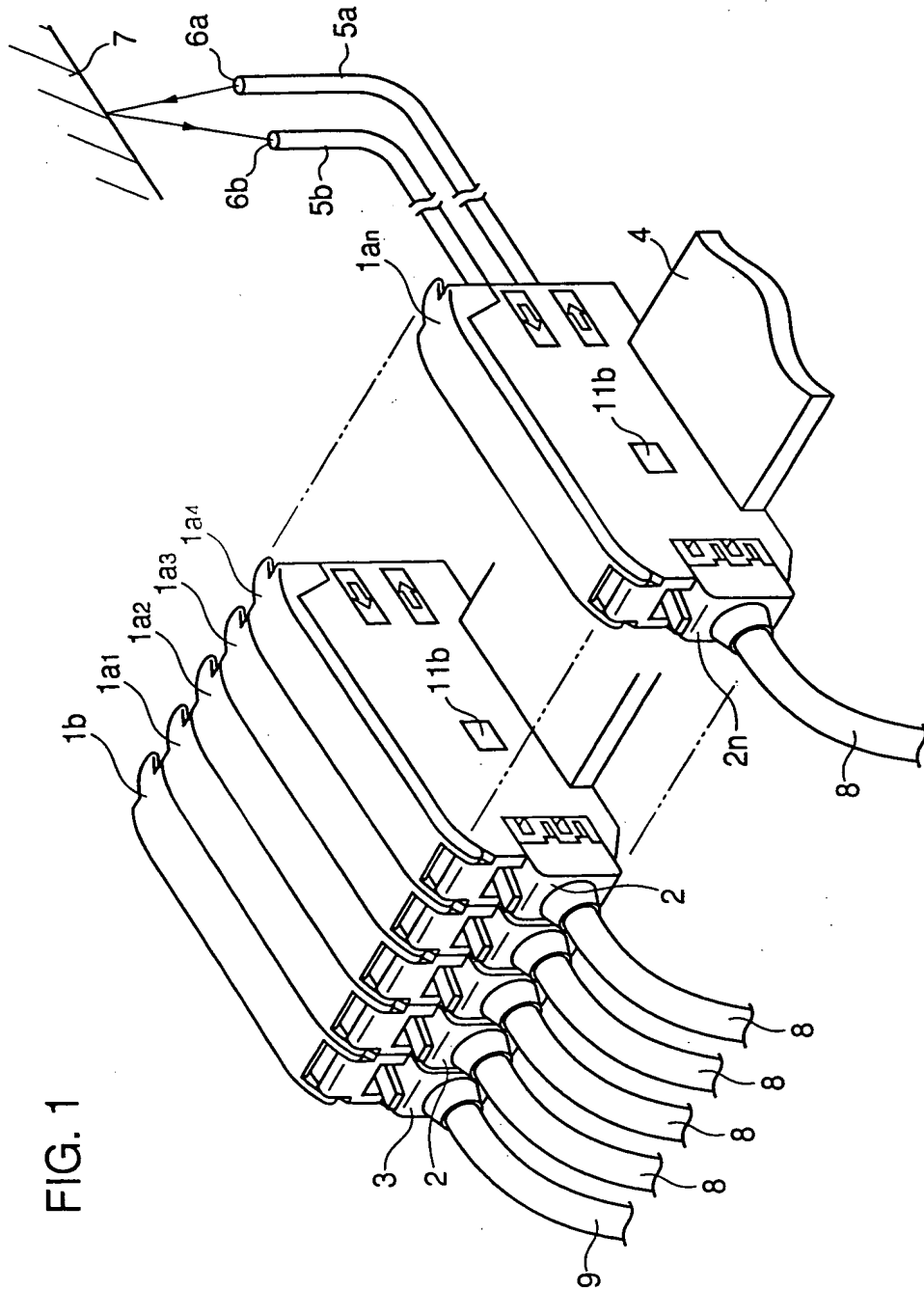


FIG. 1

FIG. 2A

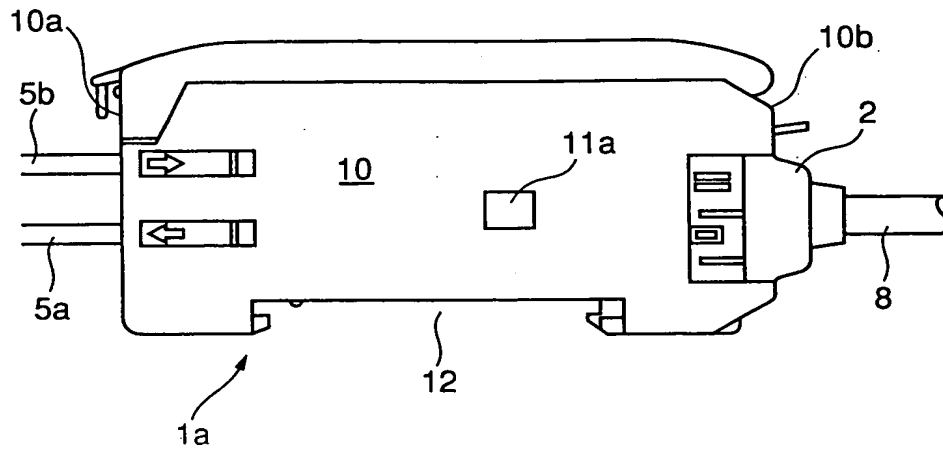


FIG. 2B

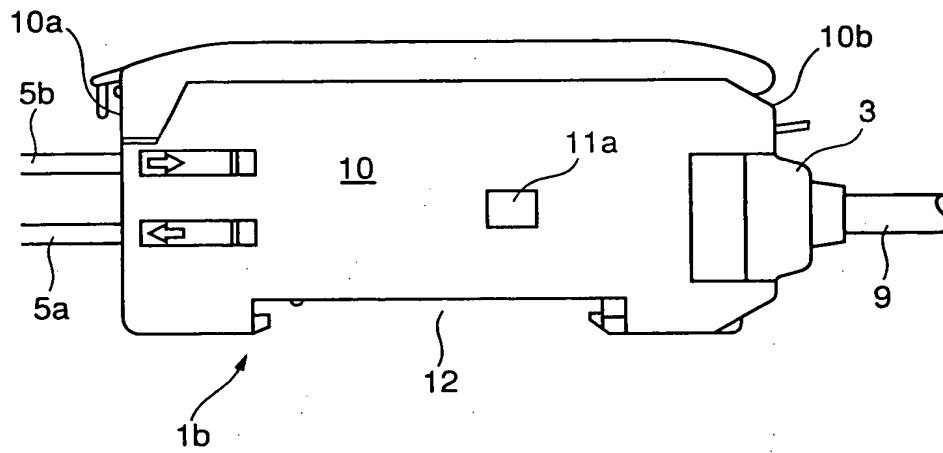


FIG. 3

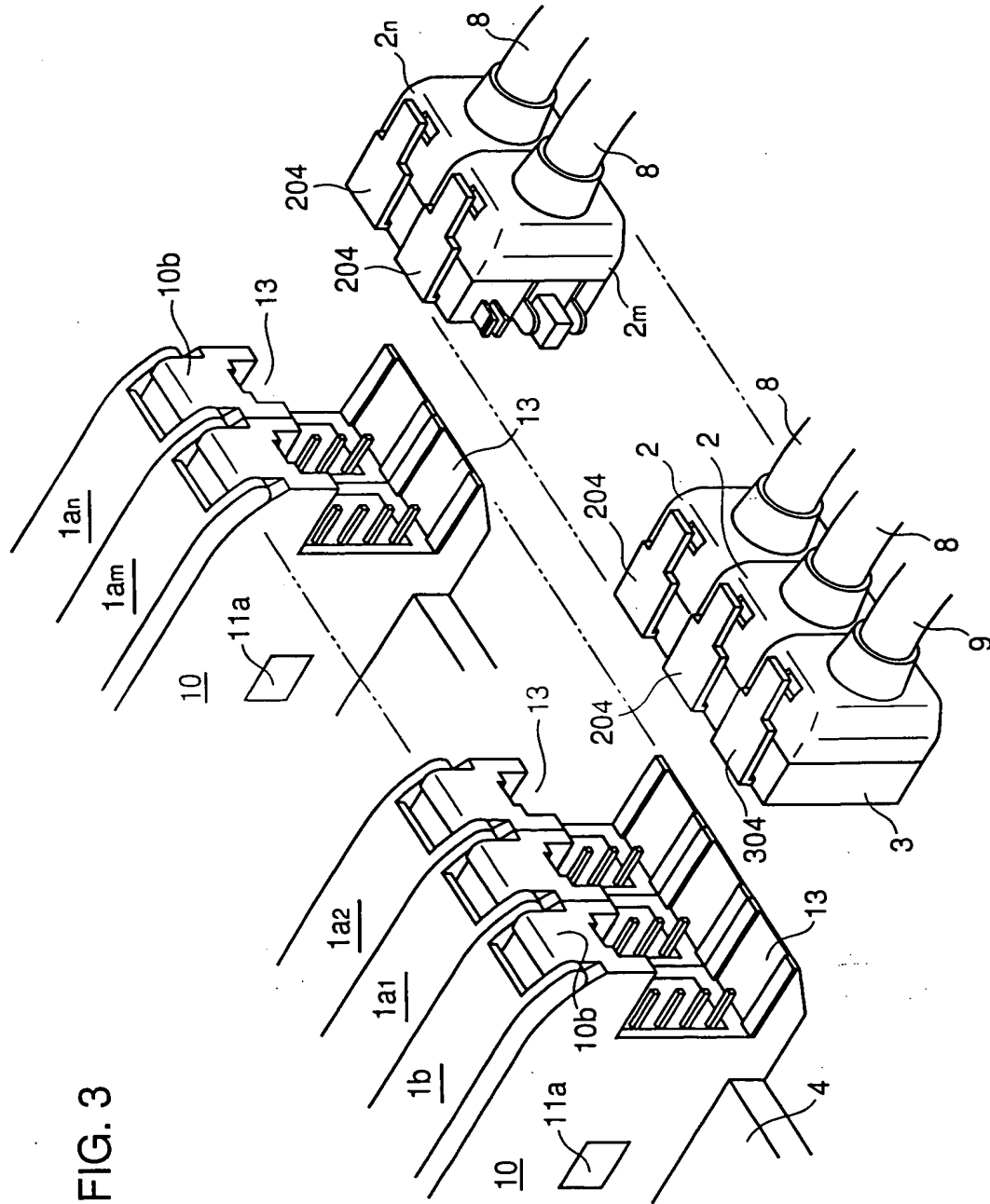


FIG. 4A

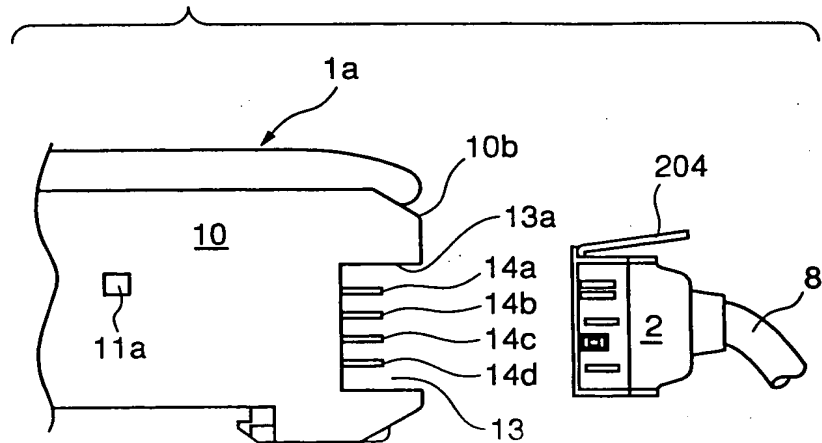


FIG. 4B

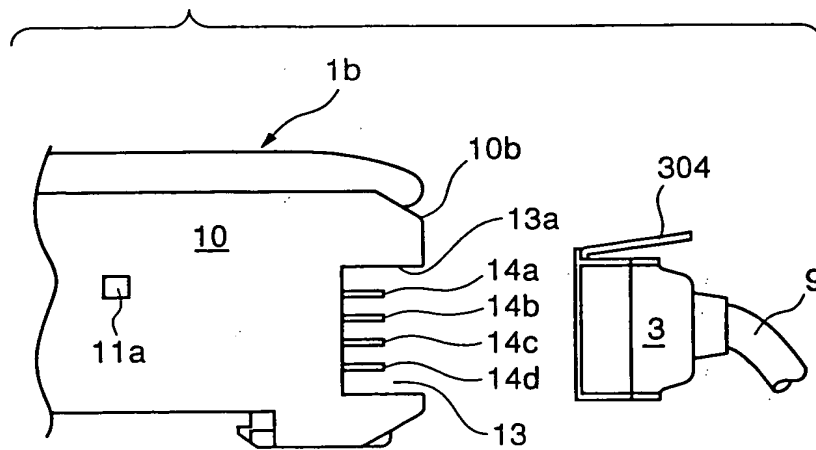


FIG. 6

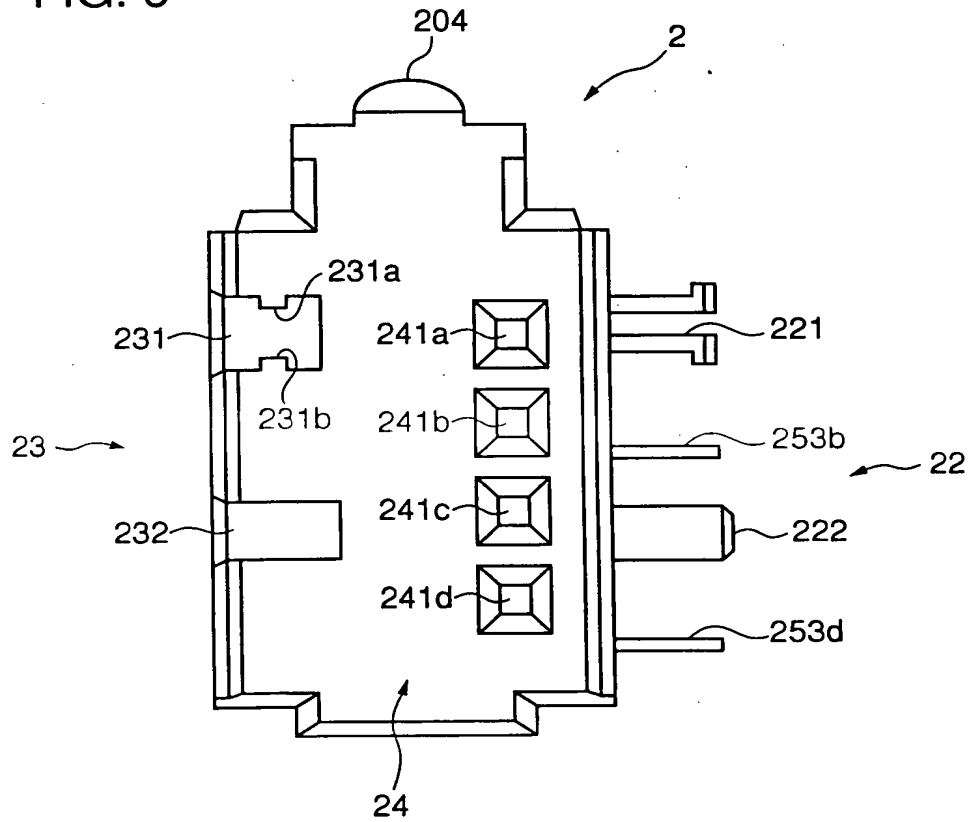


FIG. 8

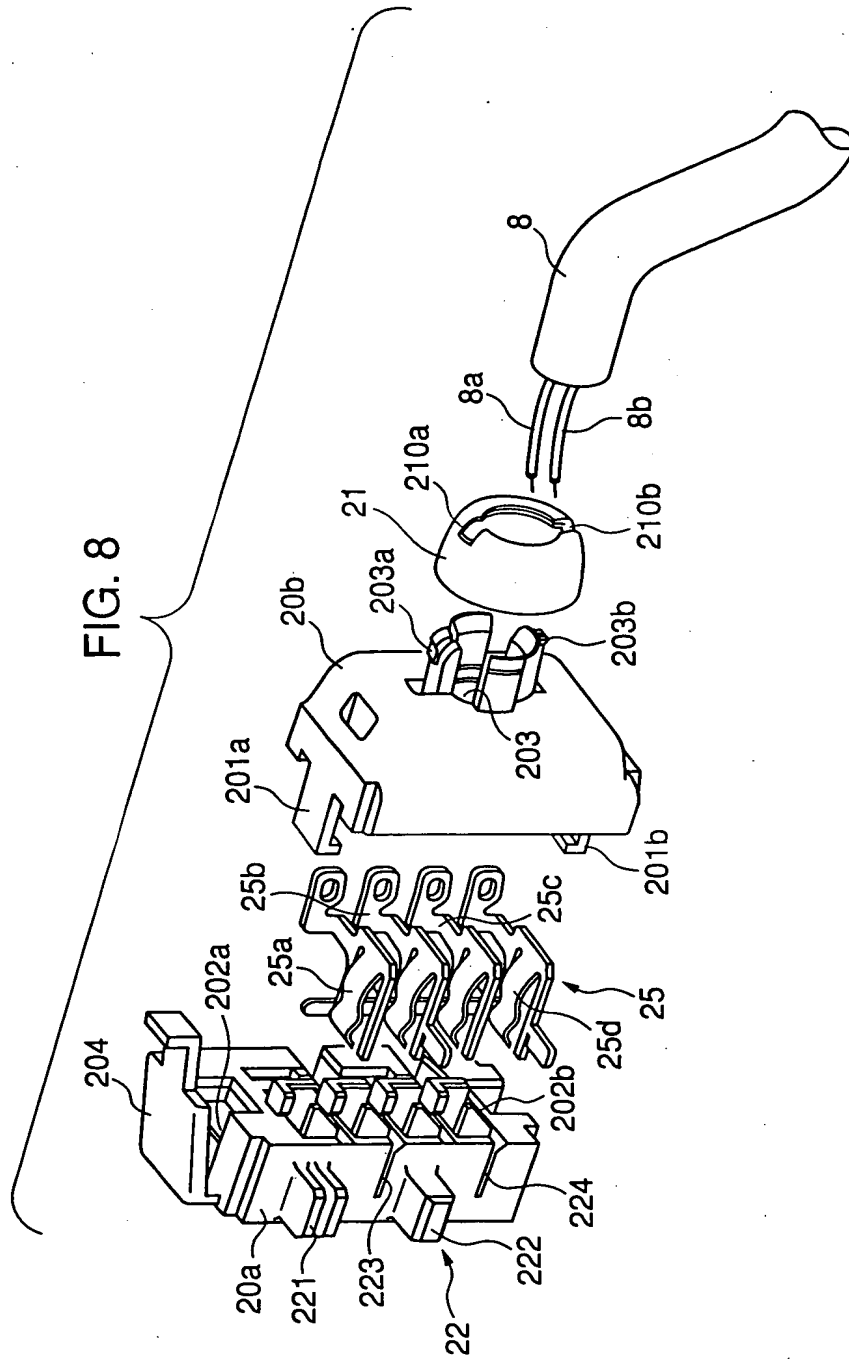


FIG. 9A

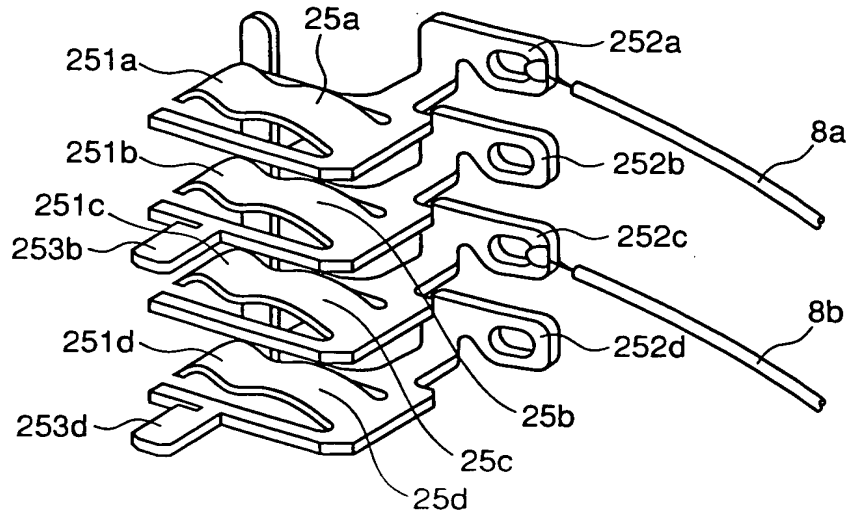


FIG. 9B

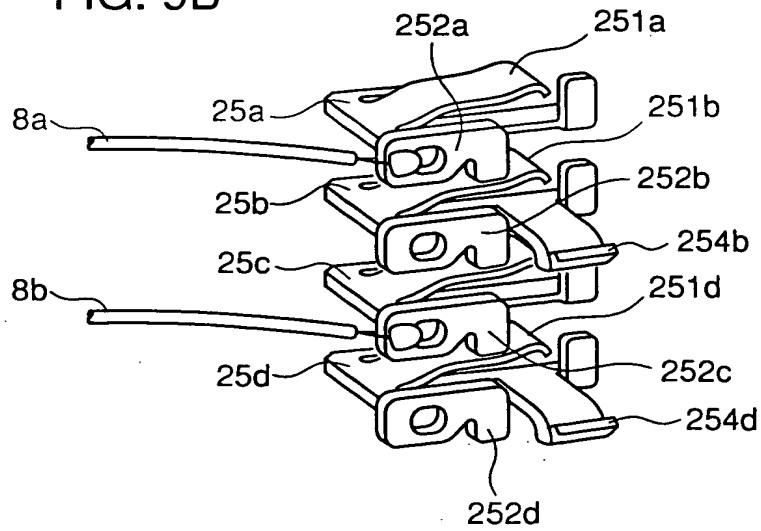


FIG. 10A

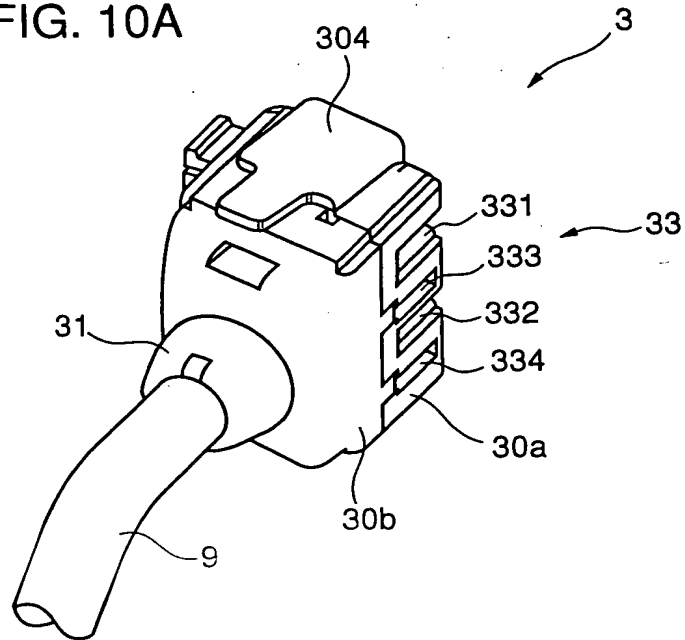


FIG. 10B

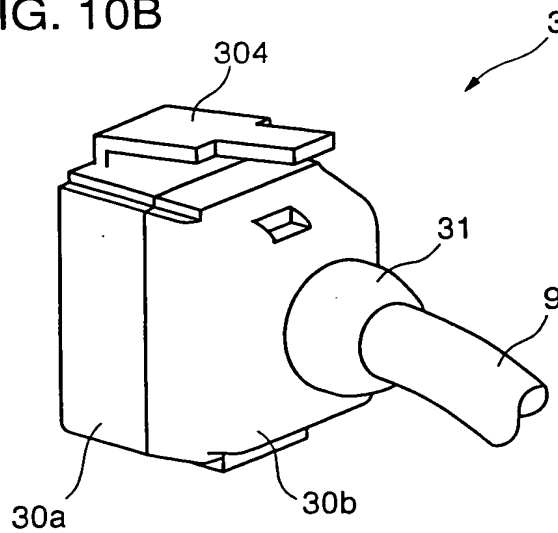


FIG. 11

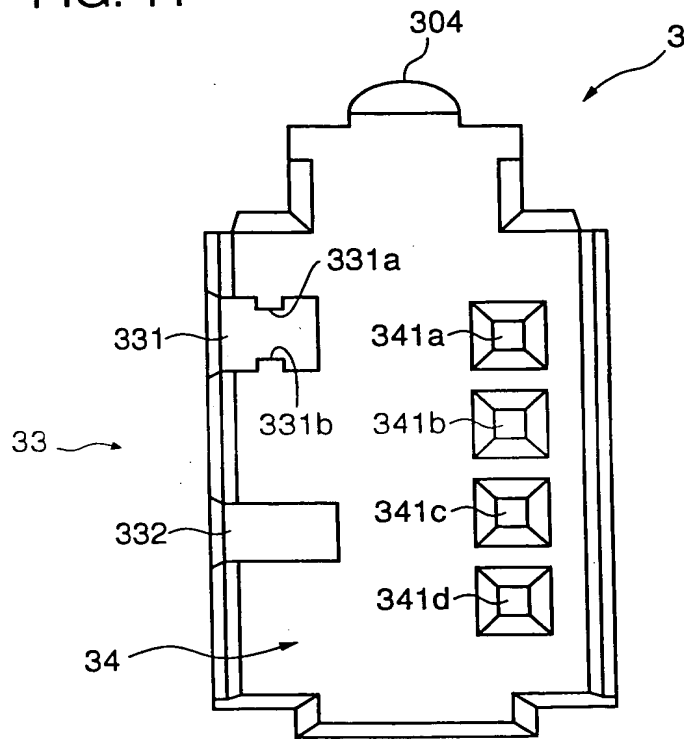


FIG. 12

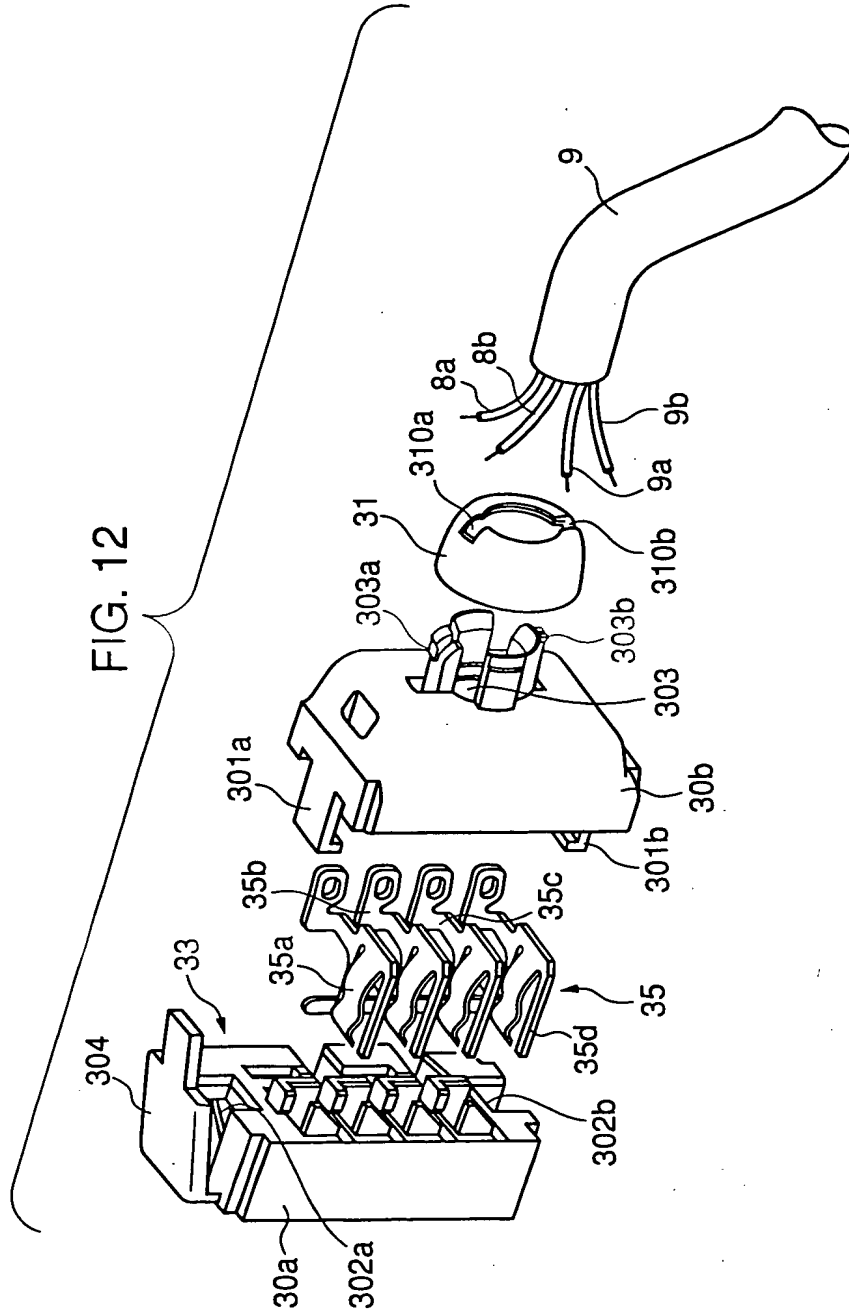


FIG. 13A

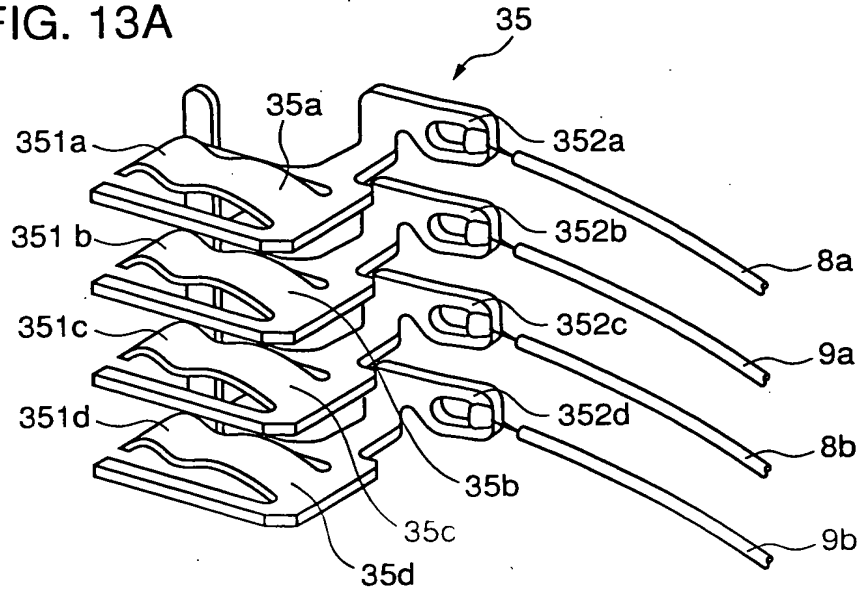
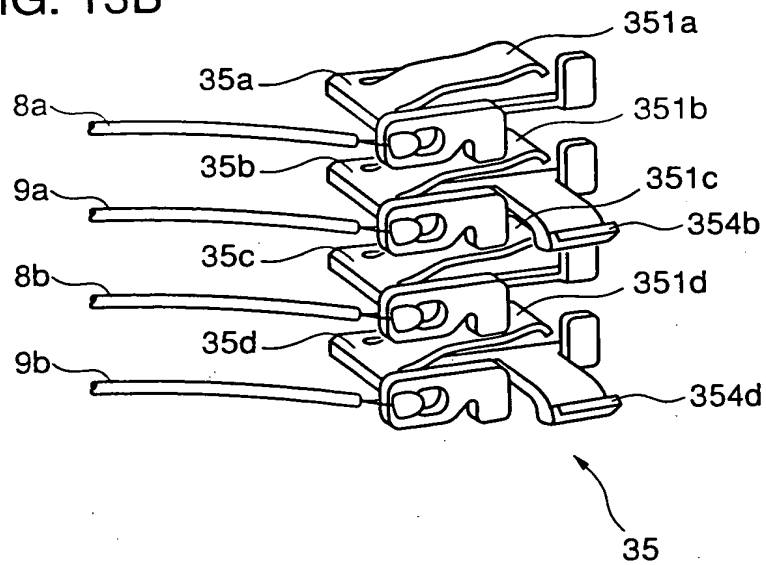


FIG. 13B



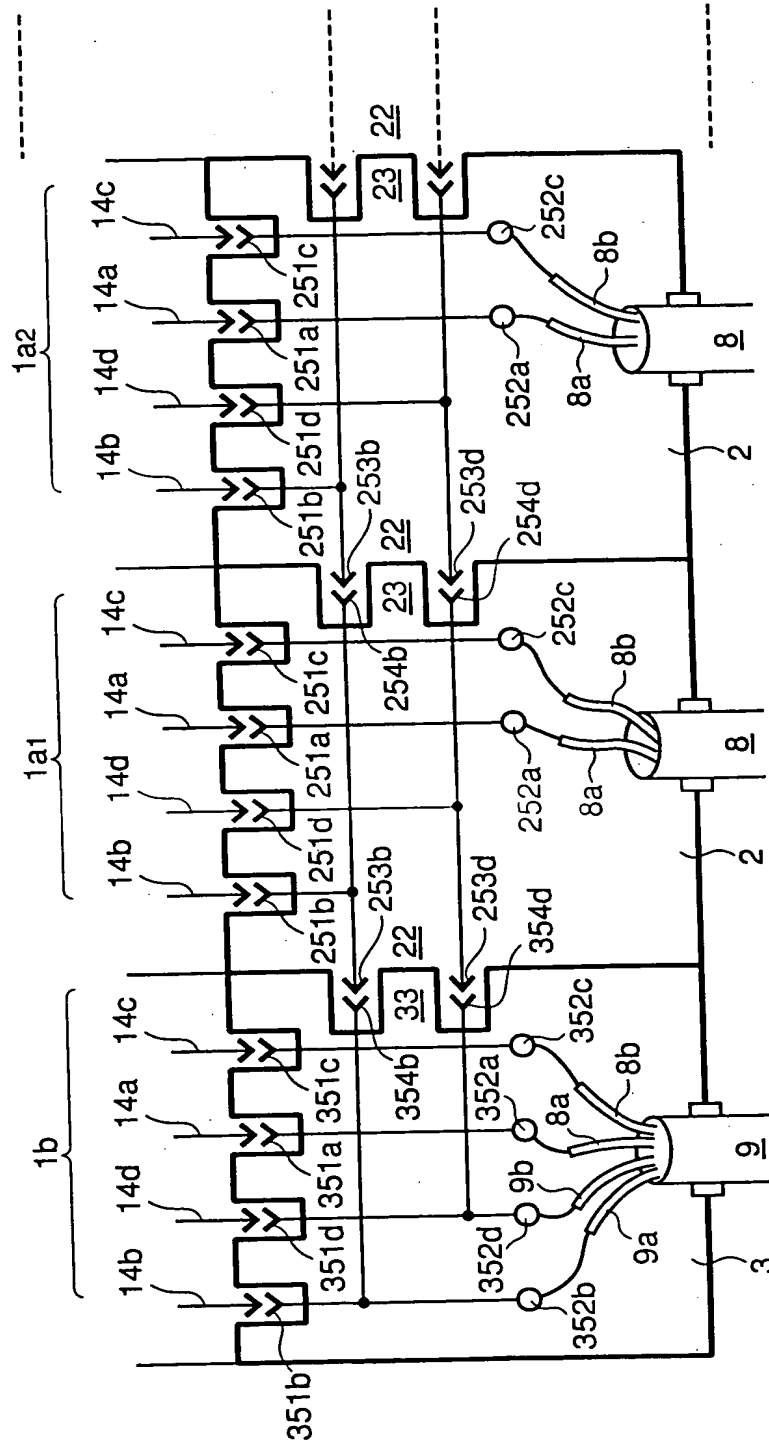


FIG. 15

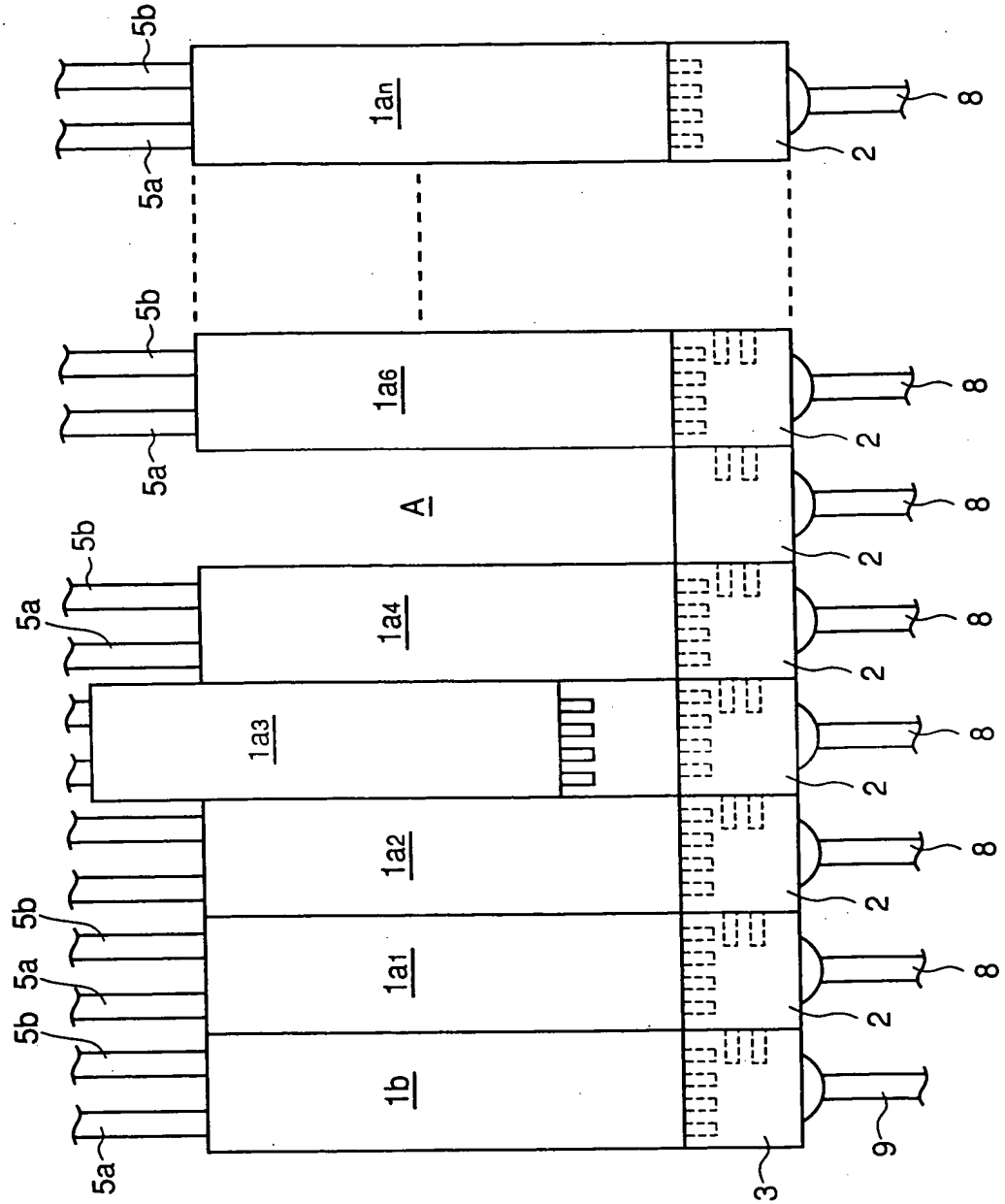


FIG. 16

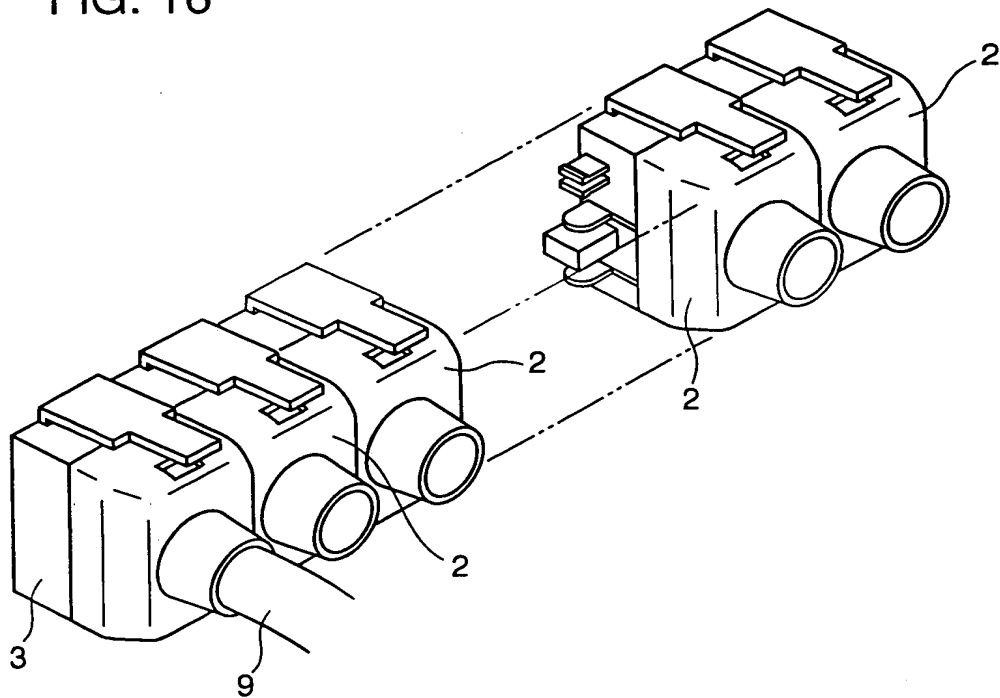


FIG. 17

PRIOR ART

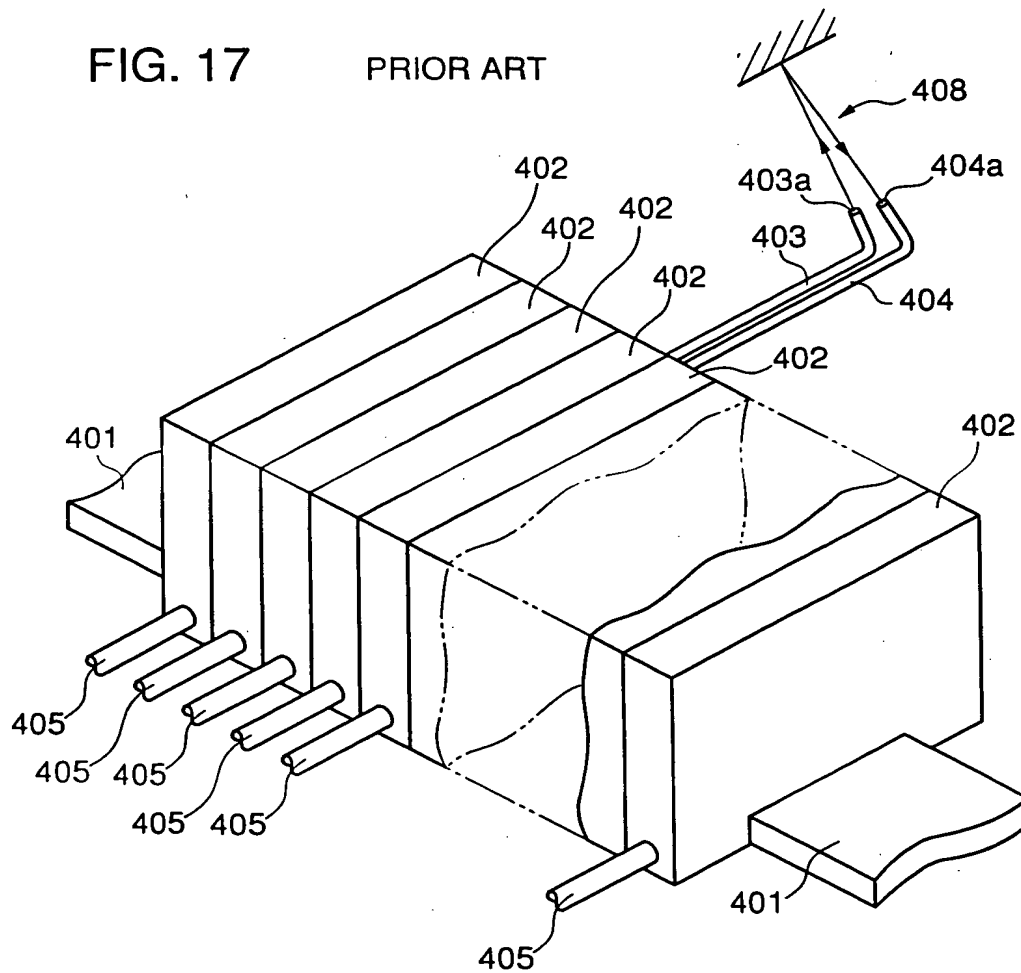


FIG. 18 PRIOR ART

